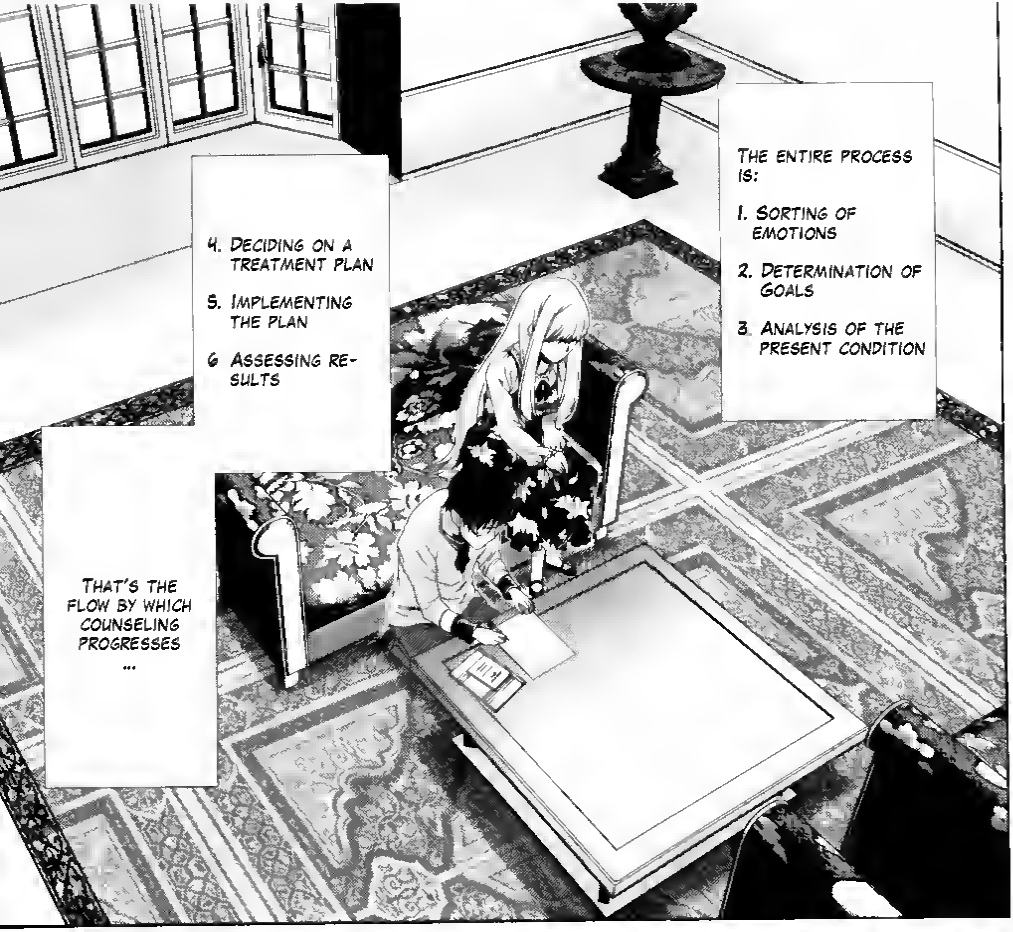
CHAPTER 5 PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

WELL THEN, TO START OFF..
COULD YOU GIVE A SIMPLE SELF-INTRODUCTION?
BOTH OF YOUR PARENTS ARE DECEASED, ARE THEY NOT...?
GATHER INFORMATION TO DEEPEN ONE'S UNDERSTANDING OF THE CLIENT
BEFORE BEGINNING COUNSELING, THE FIRST THING THAT TAKES PLACE IS...
AND THEN APPLY IT DURING COUNSELING
YES IT HAPPENED WHEN I WAS 4...
A PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
MY NAME IS EMIRU ARIGA, I'M 18 YEARS OLD


THE ENTIRE PROCESS IS:
1. SORTING OF EMOTIONS
2. DETERMINATION OF GOALS
3. ANALYSIS OF THE PRESENT CONDITION
4. DECIDING ON A TREATMENT PLAN
5. IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN
6 ASSESSING RESULTS
THAT'S THE FLOW BY WHICH COUNSELING PROGRESSES ...

SO, UNTIL THE INCIDENT TWO YEARS AGO AROSE ...
OBJECTIVELY SPEAKING, WHAT KIND OF GIRL DID YOU THINK YOU WERE?

I HAD QUITE A FEW FRIENDS...
I LIVED WITHOUT ANY REAL WORRIES...
I WAS A NORMAL, DILIGENT GIRL...
ACTUALLY, I THINK I WAS AT THE LEVEL OF AN HONOR STUDENT...
IF THAT'S THE CASE, WHAT'S WITH THE DESPAIR ALL OF A SUDDEN...
WHAT ABOUT... SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS?
LIKE DATING MEN?

I WAS CONFESSED TO AND I RECEIVED LOVE LETTERS
BUT I REFUSED THEM ALL
I WASN'T INTERESTED IN THAT KIND OF THING AND DIDN'T REALLY UNDERSTAND DATING
IS THAT SO...
IF I BRING ROMANTIC FEELINGS INTO COUNSELING,
I WON'T BE CAPABLE OF MAKING DECISIONS CALMLY...
DON'T THINK ABOUT IRRELEVANT THINGS!

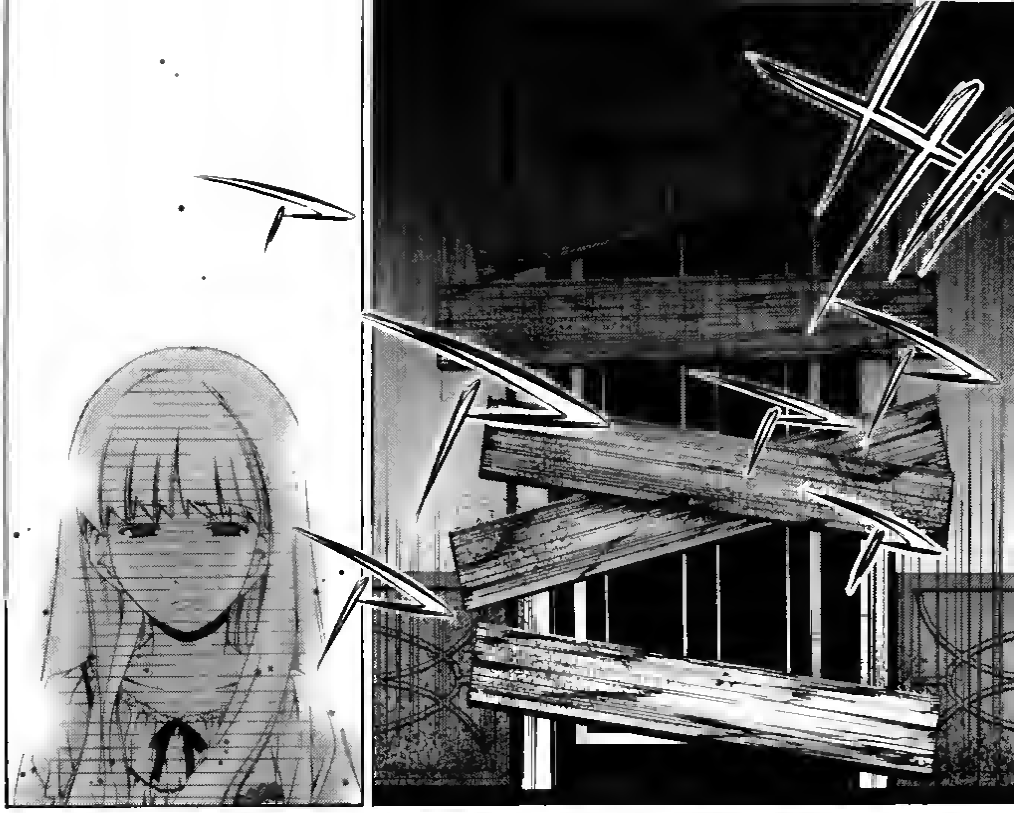
I SHOULD GET GOING TO SCHOOL
WE'LL CONTINUE NEXT TIME.
AND I SHOULD AT LEAST UNDERSTAND THAT SHE DIDN'T PUT HER TRUST IN ME
WITH THOSE KIND OF FEELINGS IN MIND!
YES, BUT
ARE YOU FEELING WELL?
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
IT SEEMS YOU SLEPT WELL LAST NIGHT...

HUH?
IT MIGHT JUST BE MY IMAGINATION, BUT I FEEL LIKE I JUST CAN'T SETTLE DOWN...
MY BACK SORT OF THROBS AND MY HANDS ARE COLD...
IT DOESN'T REALLY SEEM LIKE A PROBLEM, BUT WHAT EXACTLY IS IT?
MAKES ME UNEASY...

AH, EXCUSE ME
IT'S ALRIGHT, GO AHEAD AND TELL ME
SO, WHAT IS IT THIS TIME, FUTABA?

AHH .. IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE SHE'S IN BAD SHAPE BUT..
"COLD HANDS"?
"CAN'T SETTLE DOWN,"
"THROBBING BACK"

I'M NOT SURE WHO THIS IS ABOUT BUT...
FUTABA! CAN YOU BRACE YOURSELF AND HEAR ME OUT?
IT MAY BE A SERIOUS MATTER.
HUH?

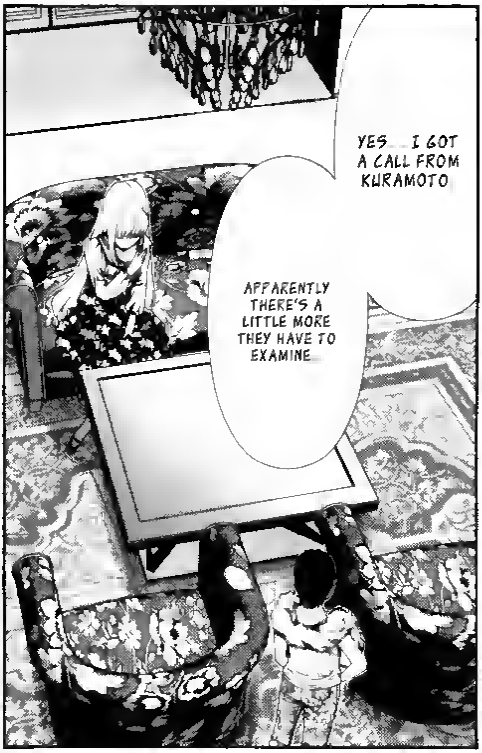


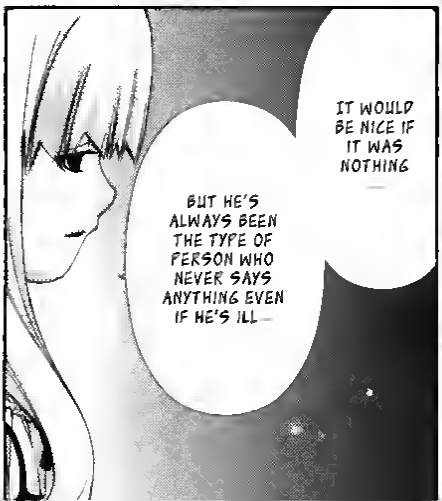
PLEASE...

PLEASE...
Ugh ...
HUH? IT'S PITCH BLACK ...
ISN'T KURAMOTO BACK YET?
FORGIVE ME...
DON'T TORMENT ME ANY MORE THAN THIS...

OH? HE EXTENDED HIS STAY AT THE HOSPITAL BY A DAY?

I WONDER WHAT'S WRONG...


YES... I GOT A CALL FROM KURAMOTO
APPARENTLY THERE'S A LITTLE MORE THEY HAVE TO EXAMINE...


IT WOULD BE NICE IF IT WAS NOTHING...
BUT HE'S ALWAYS BEEN THE TYPE OF FERSON WHO NEVER SAYS ANYTHING EVEN IF HE'S ILL...

NO NEED TO WORRY...
I'M SURE HE'S FINE!
TO EMIRU, WHO HAS LOST BOTH OF HER PARENTS...
KURAMOTO IS PRACTICALLY FAMILY...
YEAH...

KAZUMA
HMM?

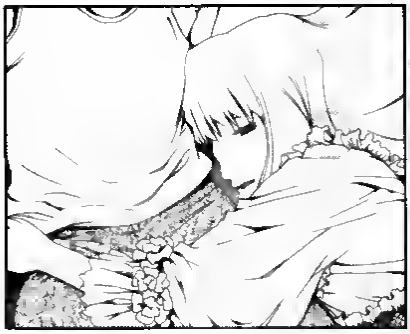
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH...
I DATED A BOY FOR A BIT IN MIDDLE SCHOOL...

COLD HANDS
CAN'T SETTLE DOWN
THROBBING BACK
HMM...
BUT ALL WE DID WAS WALK HOME TOGETHER AFTER SCHOOL
AND WE BROKE UP RIGHT AWAY, REALLY...
I DIDN'T MEAN TO HIDE IT BUT...
I'M SORRY FOR LYING...
IF YOU INTERPRET THESE BODILY REACTIONS PSYCHOLOGICALLY ...
INSIDE THAT PERSON'S HEART
FUTABA...
I'M SURE YOU RECOGNIZE IT TOO...

LOVE IS SPROUTING ...

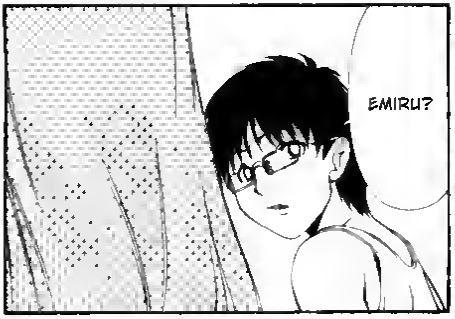
MMM
...

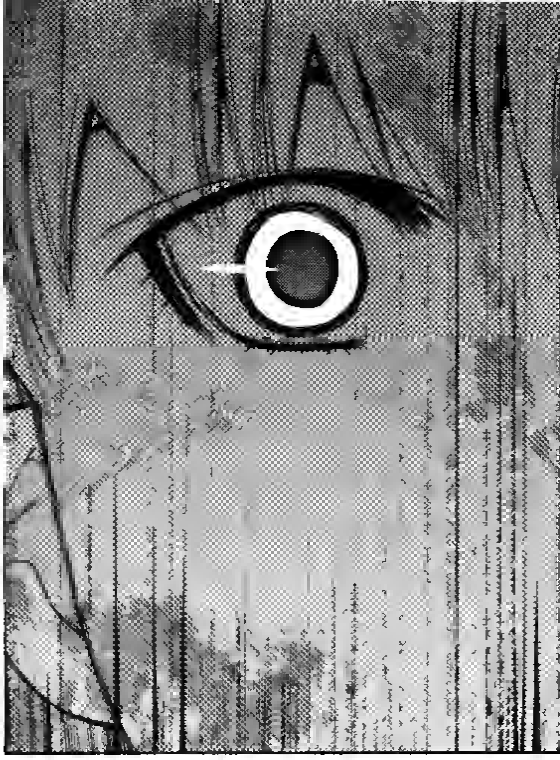
HAS THE RAIN STOPPED?



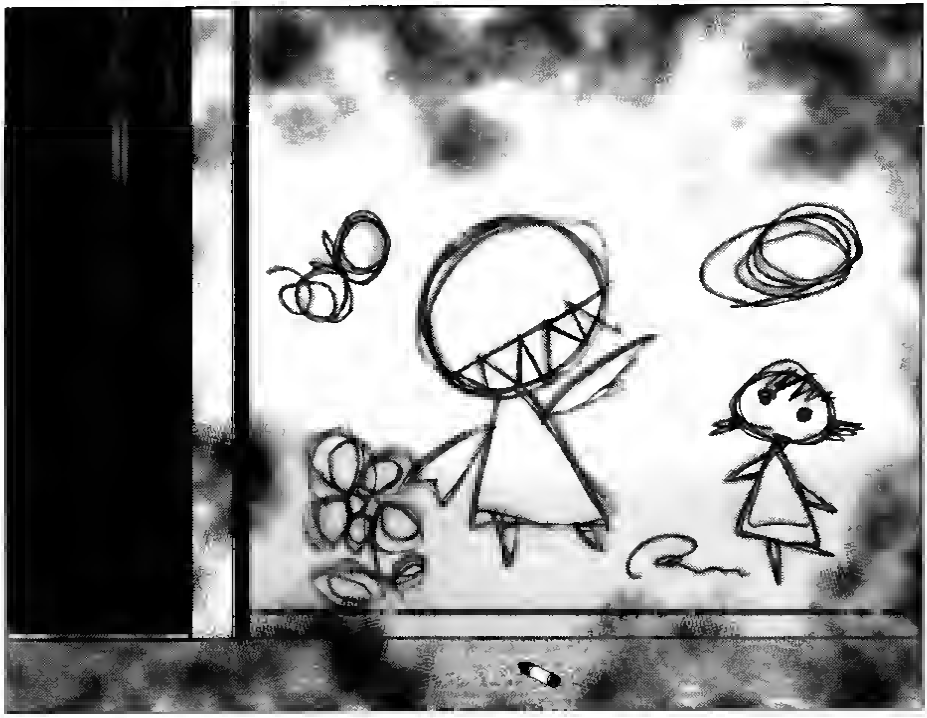
YEAH

MORNING... DID YOU SLEEP WELL?


EMIRU?



MONSTER
...
HUH?



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NOTICE!?
ALRIGHT LATELY, WE BEEN NOTICING THAT SOME ONLINE VIEWING SITES DON'T FOLLOW OUR RULES *MUMBLES*
- WE ASK FOR A 3 DAYS DELAY PERIOD BEFORE YOU HOST ANY OF OUR RELEASES. ON YOUR ONLINE VIEWING OR DDL SITE.
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CHAPTER 6 THE THING IN THE MANSION

MONSTER...?

MONSTER...
EMIRU...?
DESPAIR...
I DON'T GET IT AT ALL!
YES...
AT THE TIME, I FELT COMPLETELY DUMBFOUNDED.
AND HERE I WAS GETTING LOST IN THE STORY...
AHH... COULD IT BE SOMETHING YOU MADE UP AS AN EXAMPLE FOR TRAINEES?
LIKE SOME KIND OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL?
COME HERE, MINAMI ...
HUH?

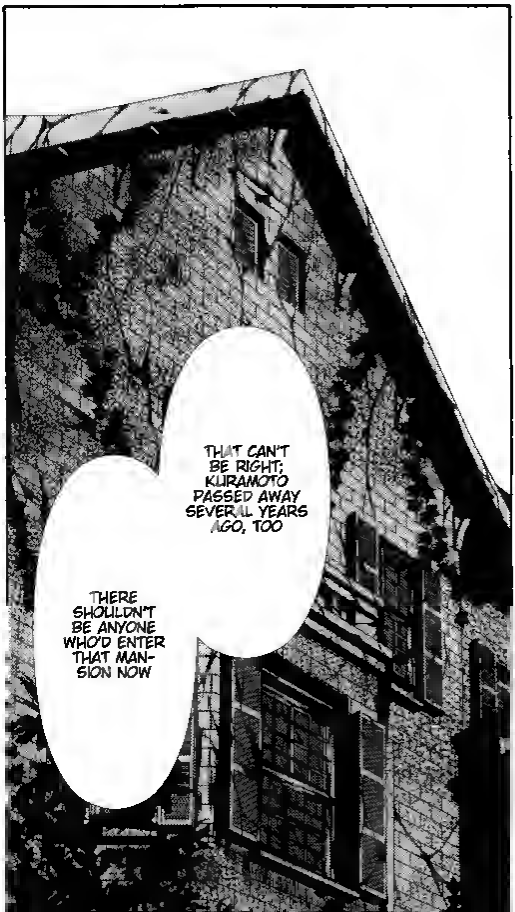
P-PROFESSOR!
GOING OFF ON YOUR OWN AGAIN ...
GEEZ,
WHERE IN THE WORLD ...

THIS...
COULD IT BE..?
IT WAS BRIEF, BUT THIS IS THE MANSION WHERE SHE AND I SPENT OUR TIME TOGETHER.
BUT, OF COURSE, NO ONE LIVES THERE NOW.

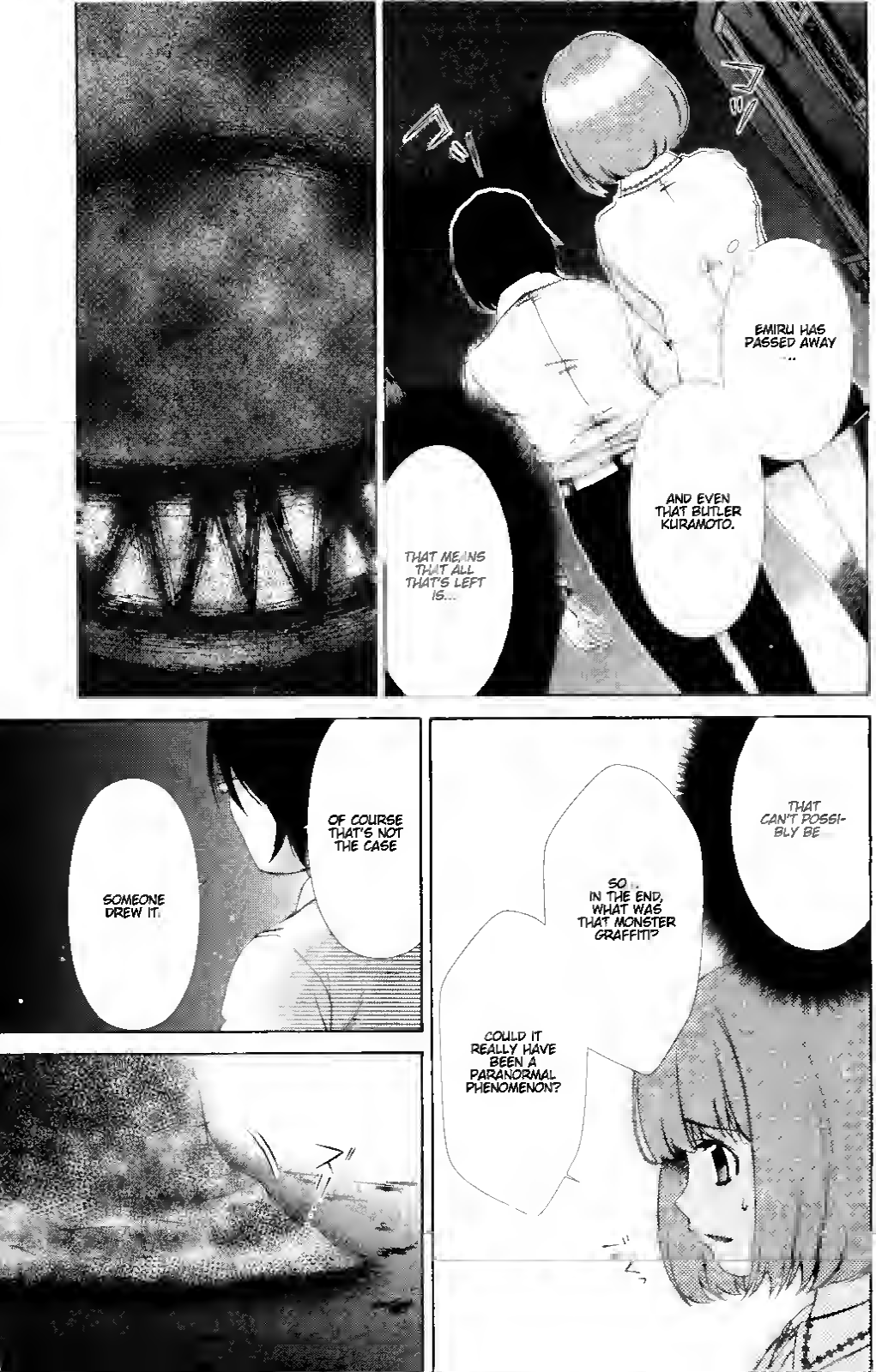
HOW NOSTALGIC
BUT IT'S GOTTEN PRETTY RUN DOWN
NO WAY... THAT MEANS UP TO THIS POINT...
THEN THE PART ABOUT DESPAIR AND THE MONSTER?
THERE'S NO WAY
THE WHOLE STORY WAS TRUE...

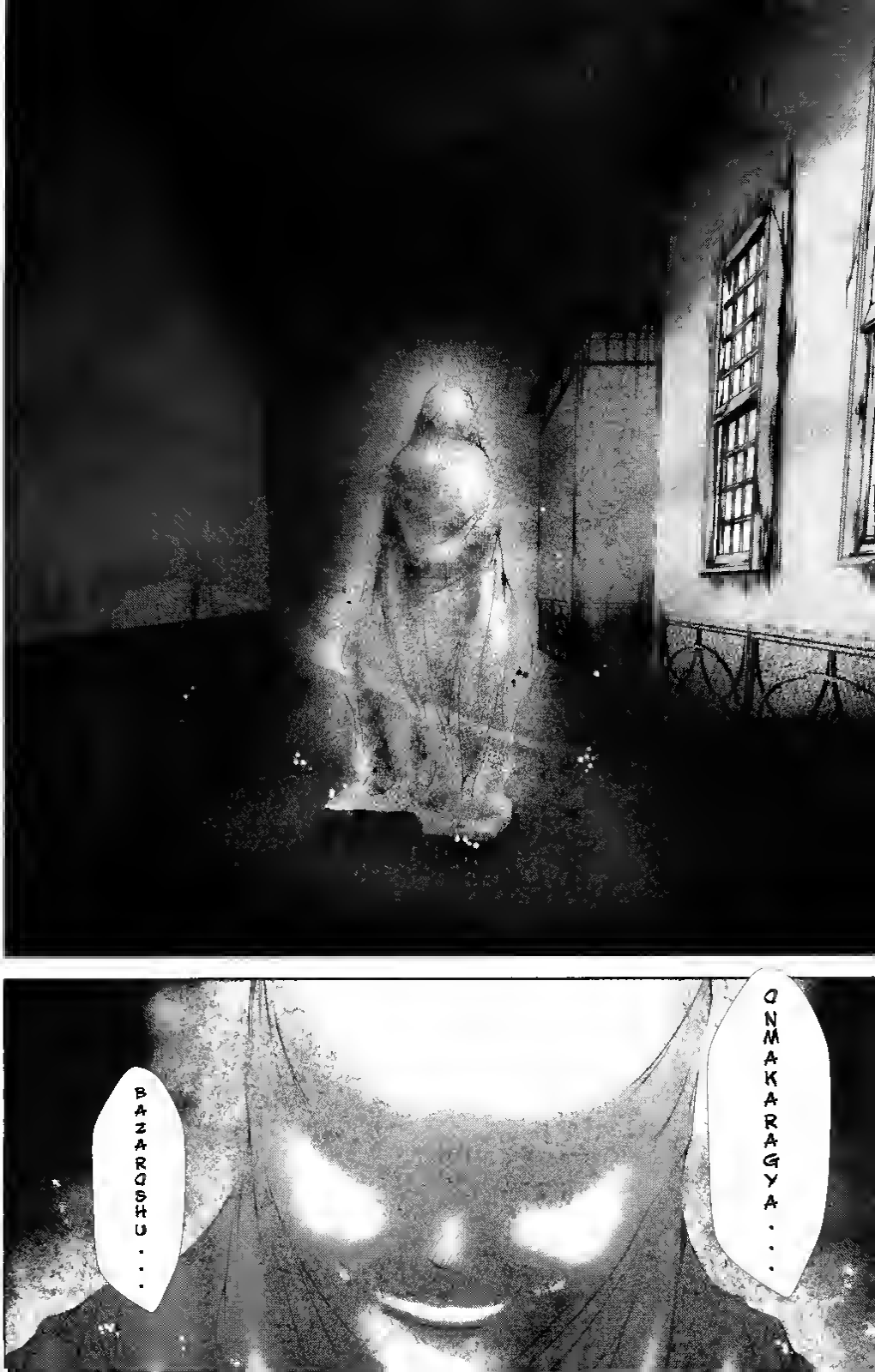
A SIL-HOUETTE?
THERE'S SOMEONE INSIDE...
P... PROFES-SOR!
THERE WAS A SILHOUETTE OF A PERSON IN THAT WINDOW JUST NOW!

PROFESSOR?


THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT; KURAMOTO PASSED AWAY SEVERAL YEARS AGO, TOO
THERE SHOULDN'T BE ANYONE WHO'D ENTER THAT MAN-SION NOW

PROFESSOR
THAT'S..
Please wait up!
THE BACK DOOR IS OPEN
.....
.....


EMIRU HAS PASSED AWAY...
AND EVEN THAT BUTLER KURAMOTO.
THAT MEANS THAT ALL THAT'S LEFT IS...
THAT CAN'T POSSIBLY BE
SO... IN THE END, WHAT WAS THAT MONSTER GRAFFITI?
COULD IT REALLY HAVE BEEN A PARANORMAL PHENOMENON?
OF COURSE THAT'S NOT THE CASE
SOMEONE DREW IT.


ONMAKARAGYA...
BAZARROSHU...

SOMEONE.
I JUST DIDN'T GET IT
WHO'D DO THAT AND WHY?

BUT EVEN MORE THAN THAT, I'M WORRIED ABOUT EMIRU RIGHT NOW
...

IT SEEMS SHE RECEIVED QUITE A SHOCK

KURA-MOTO...
I'M SORRY, IT HAPPENED WHILE I WAS THERE
...

KAZUMA
WATER FOR THE LADY.

I JUST PATROLLED THE AREA AROUND THE MANSION, BUT...
THERE WEREN'T ANY TRACES OF A BREAK IN ...
IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN A MONSTER'S DOING...
BY THE WAY, KURAMOTO, WHAT WERE THE RESULTS OF YOUR HEALTH EXAM?
HEY, ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
IT'S NOTHING TO BE WORRIED ABOUT.
MORE IMPORTANTLY, RIGHT NOW IT'S THE LADY THAT ...
I WON'T BE FORGIVEN...
I WON'T BE SAVED AFTER ALL...

I SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN BORN INTO THIS WORLD...
SOMEONE LIKE ME...
A PANIC ATTACK? I HAVE TO CALM HER DOWN...
HEY, EMIRU...

I'M TELLING YOU IT'S ALRIGHT!
WHAT ARE YOU SO AFRAID OF!?
YOU SAW THAT... THAT PICTURE, DIDN'T YOU?
STOP!
THE MONSTER...
THE MONSTER CAME OUT!

IT'S ALRIGHT, IT'S ALRIGHT...
LOOK AT MY EYES...
THE MONSTER...
WHATEVER IT MAY BE, DON'T REJECT THE PREMISE OF WHAT THE SUBJECT SAYS.
IS THAT SO.. YOU POOR THING, IT MUST HAVE BEEN SCARY ...
AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE MAINTAIN AN ATTITUDE THAT CONVEYS SYMPATHY AND UNDERSTANDING TO THE SUBJECT ...

WHAT... WHAT SHOULD I DO...?
BUT DON'T JUST PARROT WHAT THE SUBJECT SAYS
REPHRASE IT AND SHIFT THEIR THOUGHTS TOWARD THE FUTURE
THE MONSTER JUST DREW GRAFITTI AND LEFT, RIGHT?
IT DIDN'T GIVE YOU ANY OTHER SCARY OR PAINFUL THOUGHTS?
...NO?
RIGHT NOW BY MAKING HER AWARE THAT EVERYTHING IS "ALRIGHT" I CAN GIVE HER A SENSE OF EASE

IT'S AL-
RIGHT...
THANKS...
I'M ALRIGHT
NOW...
THEN...
IS THE
MONSTER
STILL IN
THE MANSION?
NO...
IT'S
NOT
HERE!

SO THIS TIME IT'S A MONSTER, HUH...

EVEN IF I JUST GET AN IDEA OF HOW SHE LOOKED...
ESPECIALLY HER PAST...
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN TWO YEARS AGO?

BUT TO GET THAT RILED UP OVER IT...
DOES IT HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH DESPAIR?

WHATEVER THE CASE,
I HAVE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HER FOR THE SAKE OF COUNSELING HER

A PHOTO?
IS THIS EMIRU?

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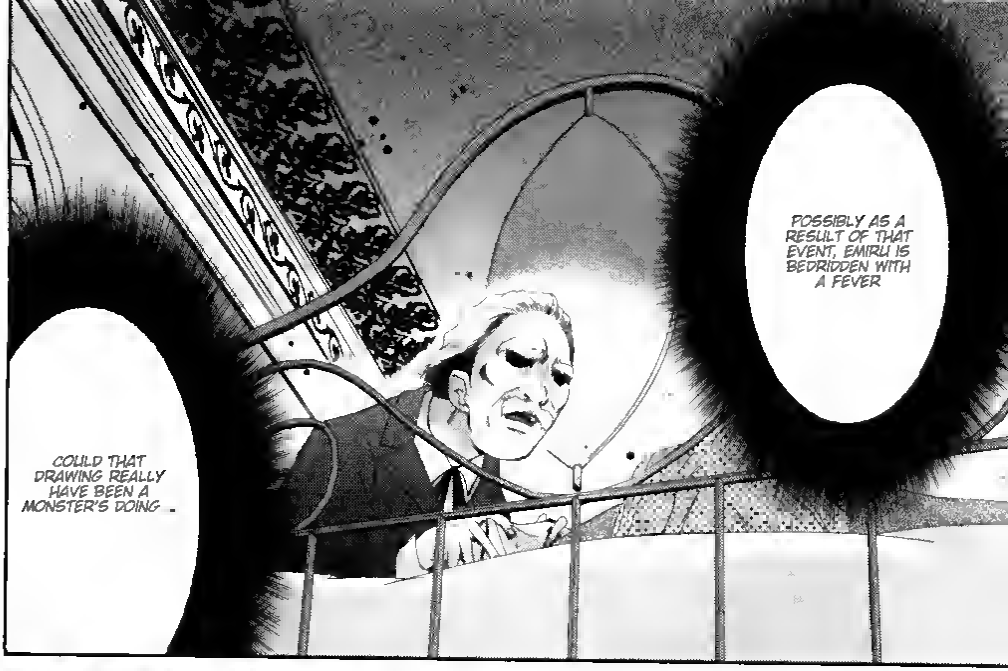
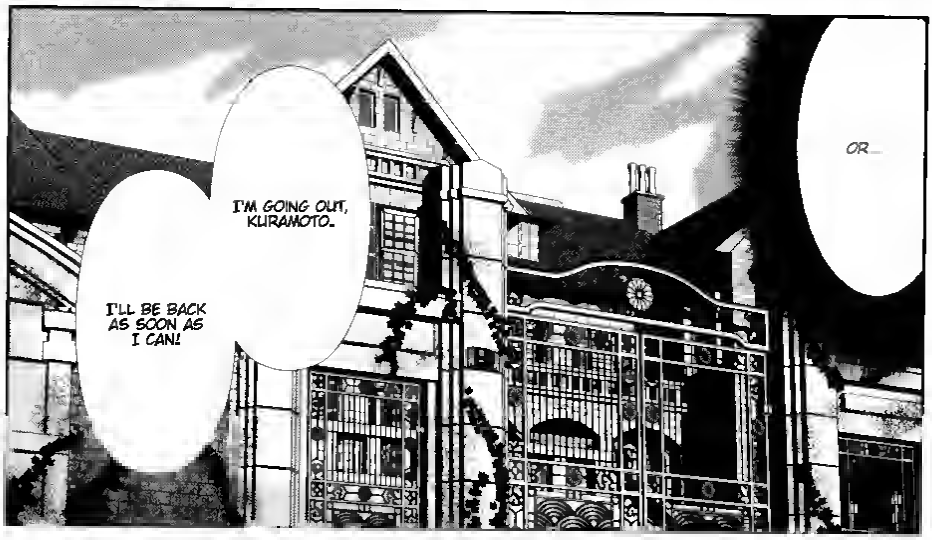
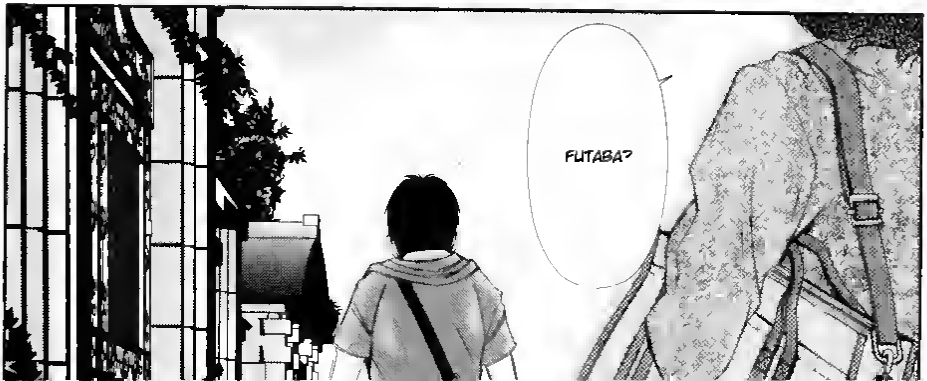
CHAPTER 7 HIGH SCHOOL ERA

AAAHHH! I'M LATE!
I TRIED THREE TIMES BUT..
I APOLOGIZE.
KURAMOTO, WHY DIDN'T YOU WAKE ME UP!?
HUH? THE BELT'S REALLY TIGHT!?
LADY, YOUR BREAK-FAST. .

SHEE-YUH...
IT'S BEEN THREE DAYS SINCE THE MONSTER INCIDENT...


POSSIBLY AS A RESULT OF THAT EVENT, EMIRU IS BEDRIDDEN WITH A FEVER
COULD THAT DRAWING REALLY HAVE BEEN A MONSTER'S DOING ..

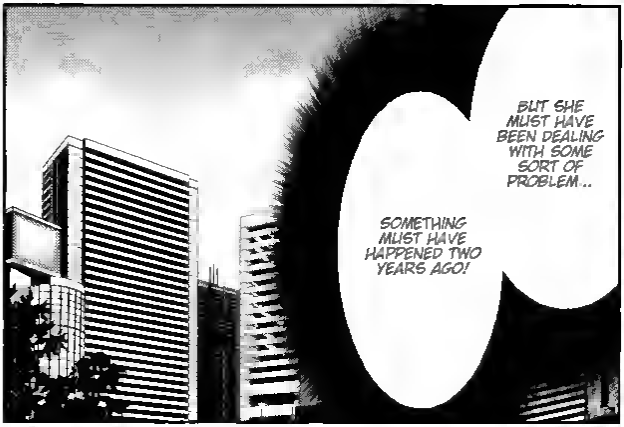

OR...
I'M GOING OUT, KURAMOTO.
I'LL BE BACK AS SOON AS I CAN!


FUTABA?

HUH? WHY ARE YOU AT EMIRU'S HOUSE?
YOU'RE... KOIZUMI, FROM MY CLASS, RIGHT?
IS THAT SO... EMIRU STILL HASN'T GOTTEN BETTER..
YEAH..

I WAS REALLY SURPRISED WHEN SHE STOPPED COMING TO SCHOOL FOR HEALTH REASONS OR SOMETHING TWO YEARS AGO...
YES...
I DIDN'T REALLY UNDERSTAND THE REASON BEHIND IT...

KOIZUMI, DIDN'T YOU GO TO HIGH SCHOOL TOGETHER WITH EMIRU?


BUT SHE MUST HAVE BEEN DEALING WITH SOME SORT OF PROBLEM...
SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED TWO YEARS AGO!

SO SHE DIDN'T CONSULT HER FRIENDS ABOUT IT EITHER.

HEY,

WHAT KIND OF GIRL WAS EMIRU TWO YEARS AGO?
DID SHE SEEM TROUBLED BY SOMETHING OR BEHAVE STRANGELY?
NOTHING REALLY COMES TO MIND...
IT'S AS IF EVERYTHING ABOUT HER WAS SHINING ...
ON THE CONTRARY...
WELCOME!
52nd HAKUSEN HIGH SCHOOL CULTURAL FESTIVAL
HAKUSEN HIGH SCHOOL LIGHT MUSIC CLUB
×
National Violin Competition Winner
EMIRU ARIGA
A DREAM COLLABORATION!

ALWAYS SO BRIGHT AND LIVELY...
EMIRU!
YEAAAAH!

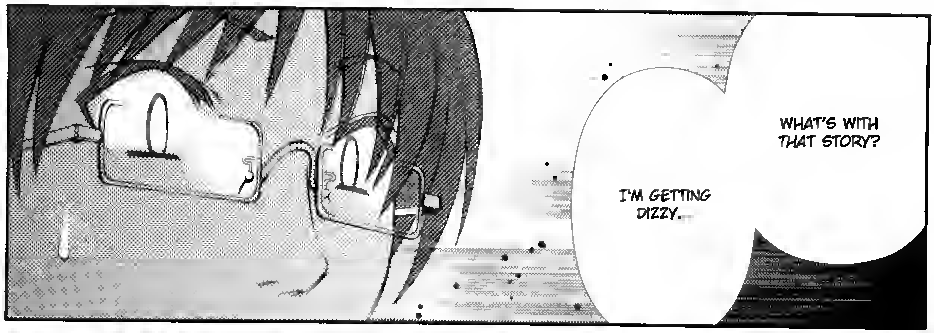
HEY, BOYS! STOP SLACKING AND START CLEANING!
WE GET IT, SHUT UP ALREADY...
GOOD BOY.
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS LISTEN TO WHAT ARIGA SAYS SO MEEKLY?
SHUT UP!

DOG STORY
NOW PLAYING
ADMIRED BY EVERYONE
HUH? IT'S ONLY BEEN 5 MINUTES SINCE IT STARTED...

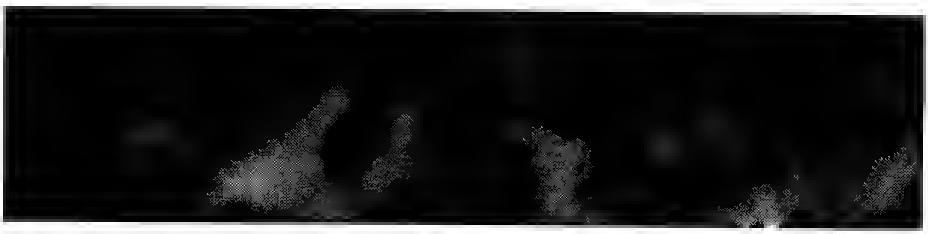
NO... I WAS JUST THINKING...
EH? WHAT'S WRONG, KOIZUMI?
WAS IT BORING?
THAT SCENE REALLY MOVED ME...
AND ABOVE ALL ELSE...
HOW CAN I BE MORE LIKE EMIRU...
LIVING EVERY DAY TO THE FULLEST, LAUGHING AND CRYING... I GOT A LITTLE ENVIOUS...
HMM... WELL,
I THINK IT'S PRETTY SIMPLE

EVEN EVERYDAY THINGS THAT MAKE YOU HAPPY OR SAD...

THAT'S WHY WHEN WE HEARD THAT EMIRU QUIT SCHOOL,
WE ALL WONDERED WHAT HAD HAPPENED
DON'T NEGLECT THEM! DON'T LEAVE THEM TO OTHERS!
SO THAT YOU CAN LIKE WHO YOU ARE!


WHAT'S WITH THAT STORY?
I'M GETTING DIZZY...

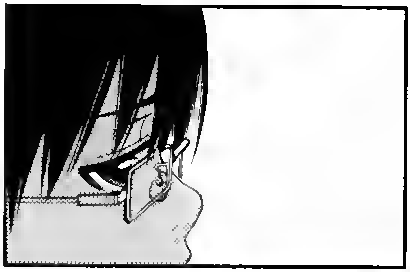
DESPAIR?
WELL, MY CLASS IS THIS WAY
YEAH, ALRIGHT
HOW COULD A GIRL LIKE THAT...



NO... IS IT BECAUSE SHE'S LIKE THAT...
THAT SHE'S FACING IT SO FIERCELY?

WHY SHOULD SHE HAVE TO SUFFER THAT MUCH?
JUST WHAT IS THE SECRET SHE HOLDS...?
SHE'S
ANYTHING ABOUT
TO DIE...
EVEN AFTER
IS...
MAKING A GLOOMY FACE LIKE ALWAYS, I SEE!

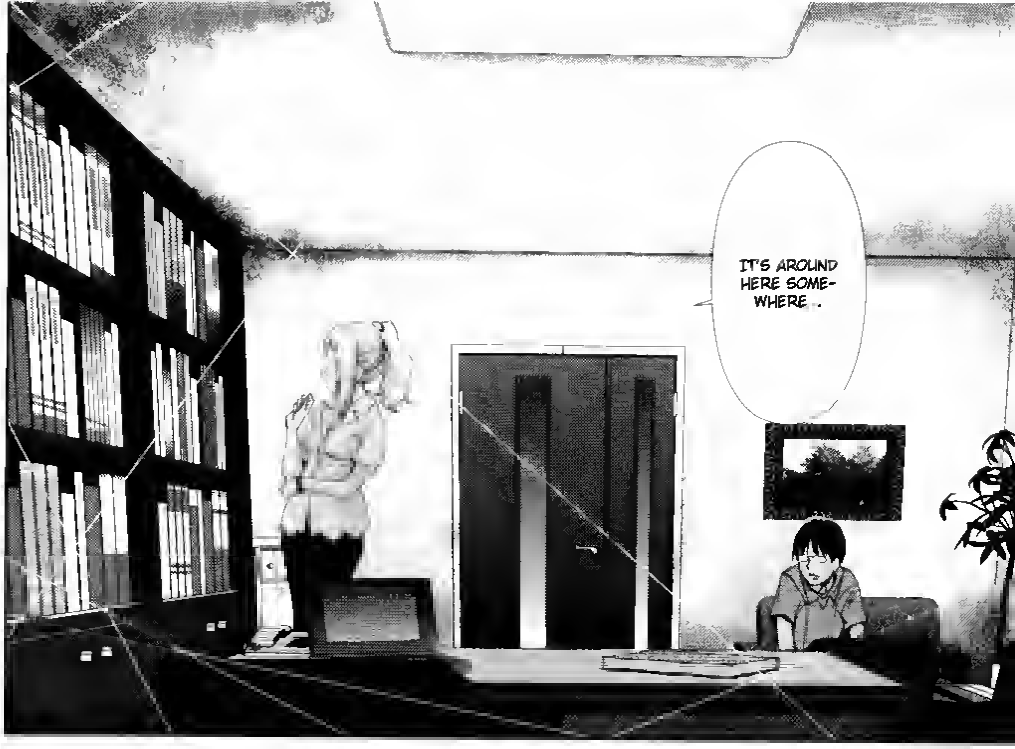
PROFESSOR OOTSUKI...
WHAT'S WORRYING YOU THIS TIME?



NO ONE'S GOING TO GO TO A COUNSELOR LIKE THAT..

PROFESSOR... TO A PERSON,
WHAT EXACTLY IS "DESPAIR"?

SO, ANOTHER CHALLENGING PROBLEM...
BUT I'D HAVE TO SAY THAT THAT'S A QUESTION
BETTER SUITED TO PHILOSOPHERS THAN TO CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGISTS.
YOU'RE RIGHT, I'M SORRY...
I'LL EXCUSE MYSELF ...
WAIT A MINUTE!

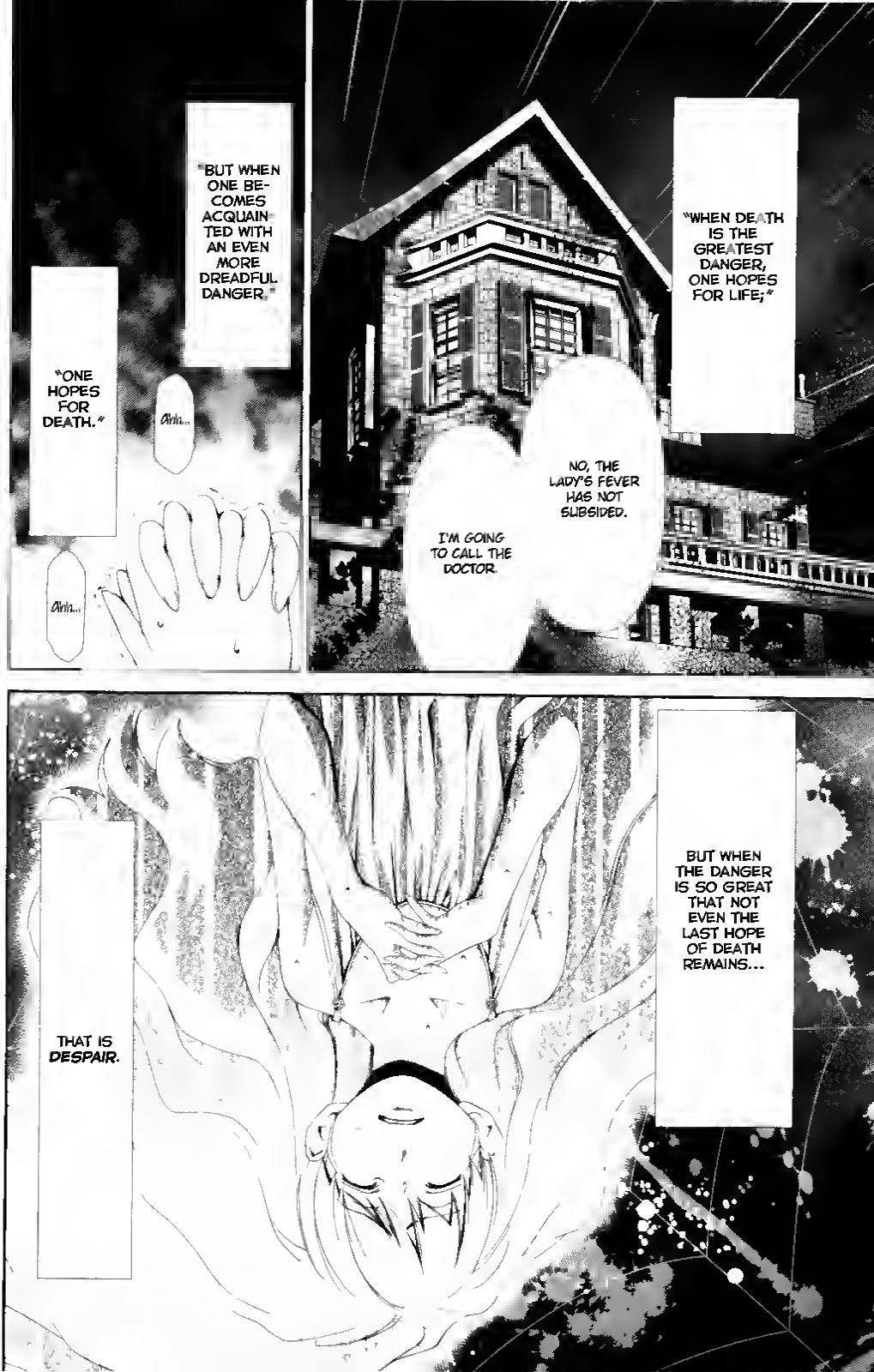

IT'S AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE..

IT'S A BIT DIFFICULT, BUT YOU CAN USE IT FOR REFERENCE
HAVE A LOOK AT IT WHEN YOU HAVE SOME FREE TIME

AH, HERE IT IS!
心理学

WHAT IS IT?

"THE SICKNESS UNTO DEATH?"
THE SICKNESS UNTO DEATH
Soren Kierkegaard
PART 1
"THAT DESPAIR IS THE SICKNESS UNTO DEATH"
EMIRU ARIGA


"BUT WHEN ONE BECOMES ACQUAINTED WITH AN EVEN MORE DREADFUL DANGER,"
"ONE HOPES FOR DEATH."
Ahh...
Ahh...
"WHEN DEATH IS THE GREATEST DANGER, ONE HOPES FOR LIFE;"
NO, THE LADY'S FEVER HAS NOT SUBSIDED.
I'M GOING TO CALL THE DOCTOR.
BUT WHEN THE DANGER IS SO GREAT THAT NOT EVEN THE LAST HOPE OF DEATH REMAINS...
THAT IS DESPAIR.

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CHAPTER 9 THE FORBIDDEN LINE

MEDICALLY SPEAKING, IT'S JUST A COLD
NORMALLY IT WOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM AFTER SOME REST

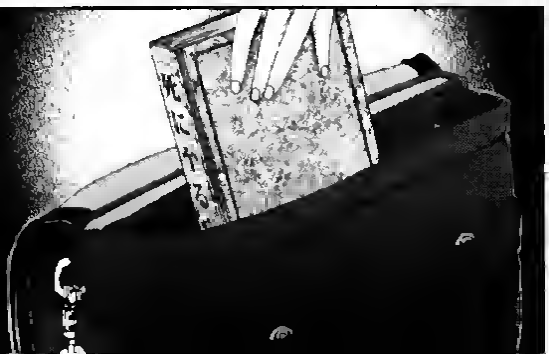
HOWEVER, IN HER CASE, I HAVE TO SAY THIS A DANGEROUS SITUAITON

PLEASE DON'T TAKE YOUR EYES OFF HER!
IF SHE CONTRACTED SOMETHING LIKE PNEUMONIA
IT COULD BE LIFE-THREATENING.
HER BODY IS WEAK.
HER IMMUNE RESPONSE HAS FALLEN TO THE LEVEL OF CHILDREN AND THE ELDERLY.
IF HER BODY TEMPERATURE FALLS TOO FAR IN RESPONSE TO HER FEVER,
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT SHE WILL BECOME HYPOTHERMIC. SO BE CAREFUL!
THAT CAN'T BE
HER NORMAL TEMPERATURE IS AN EXTREMELY LOW 34 DEGREES CELSIUS
AND DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN EVEN IF HER FEVER BREAKS.

HAVING TO SUFFER LIKE THIS FROM JUST A COLD
THEN THERE'S ME, WHO'S FALLEN FOR THIS GIRL...
MAYBE IT'S WRONG OF ME TO THINK THIS, BUT...
BUT...

HER SORROWFUL, SUFFERING FIGURE
IS SOMETHING OF BEAUTY.

WHAT COULD HAVE FORCED
SUCH A GIRL INTO THIS CONDITION?



BASED ON WHAT I HEARD FROM KOIZUMI
EMIRU LIVED A WORRY-FREE LIFE UP UNTIL TWO YEARS AGO
SHE EVEN SHONE...

"MAN IS SPIRIT."
"THE SICKNESS UNTO DEATH"
"BUT WHAT IS SPIRIT?
EMIRU
ARE YOU FEELING ALRIGHT?
Hmmm...
"SPIRIT IS..."

SORRY I MADE YOU WORRY
YES, I'M MUCH BETTER
LOOKS LIKE MY FEVER'S GONE DOWN, TOO
THAT'S GREAT! WILL YOU EAT SOMETHING?
I'LL ASK KURAMOTO FOR SOME RICE PORRIDGE
NO, BEFORE THAT
I'M ALL SWEATY AND IT FEELS GROSS
I'LL SHOWER
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, YOU CAN'T DO THAT YET!
I'LL BRING A TOWEL AND HOT WATER, SO WAIT HERE

.....
MY BACK
COULD YOU WIPE IT?
KAZUMA

OKAY...
ALTHOUGH SHE'S FULL OF MYSTERY
FOR SOME REASON, THIS PAINED GIRL IS PLAYING HER TRUST IN ME...

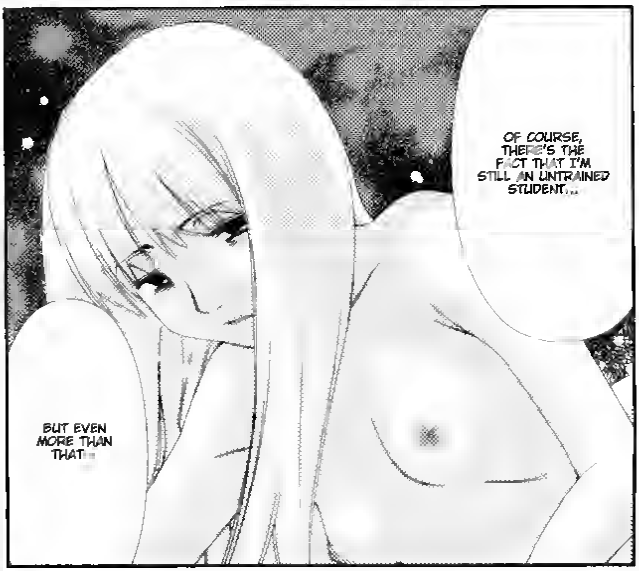
IN COUNSELING, START BY BUILDING A RELATIONSHIP
THROUGH SOMETHING CALLED "RAPPORT." RAPPORT IS VITAL FOR OFFERING ADVICE AND RELIEF FOR PROBLEMS.
BUT SOMETIMES IF THERE IS TOO MUCH RAPPORT BUILT UP
THE LINE BETWEEN "COUNSELOR" AND "CLIENT"
IS CROSSED!

KAZUMA?

FROM THIS POINT ON, I DON'T FEEL CONFIDENT
THAT I CAN CONTINUE AS YOUR COUNSELOR.

EMIRU...
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH...

CAN I MAINTAIN A COUNSELOR'S DISTANCE?


OF COURSE, THERE'S THE FACT THAT I'M STILL AN UNTRAINED STUDENT...
BUT EVEN MORE THAN THAT...

I'M NOT SURE THAT YOU WON'T BECOME...
KAZUMA
SOMETHING MORE THAN A CLIENT TO ME...
COLD...
HUH?
.....

HURRY AND PUT ON YOUR CLOTHES!
WAIT, I'LL BRING A BLANKET...
USE MY SWEAT-SHIRT, TOO!
HYPO-THERMIA!?
I FEEL THE SAME WAY.
BUT THAT'S EXACTLY WHY IT HAS TO BE YOU
IF YOU WANT TO KNOW WHY ...
DON'T GO, KAZUMA!

EMIRU?
SINCE I WAS BORN...
COLD
DARK
FALLING...
YOU'RE THE FIRST PERSON WHO'S EVER REACHED MY HEART!
PLEASE, KAZUMA

EMBRACE ME!
CALL OUT TO ME...
FEEL ME...
LISTEN TO MY VOICE ...

"MAN IS SELF."
DESIRE ME!

"BUT WHAT IS SPIRIT?"
"SPIRIT IS THE SELF."
ツンツン
"BUT WHAT IS THE SELF?"

"THAT RELATION WHICH RELATES ITSELF TO ITS OWN SELF."
Hmm...
"THE SELF IS A RELATION."
THAT IS WHAT IT IS.

HE MAY BE ABLE TO SAVE THE LADY...
MASTER ...

BECAUSE OF YOU I WAS PUSHED OFF...
FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE DEPTHS OF DARKNESS!

Hidoi~! Translators
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- WE ASK FOR A 3 DAYS DELAY PERIOD BEFORE YOU HOST ANY OF OUR RELEASES. ON YOUR ONLINE VIEWING OR DDL SITE.
WE WOULD APPRECIATE IF THIS RULE WAS NOT IGNORED.
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CHAPTER 9
HAPPINESS AND REALITY

I WANTED HIM
TO DESIRE ME.

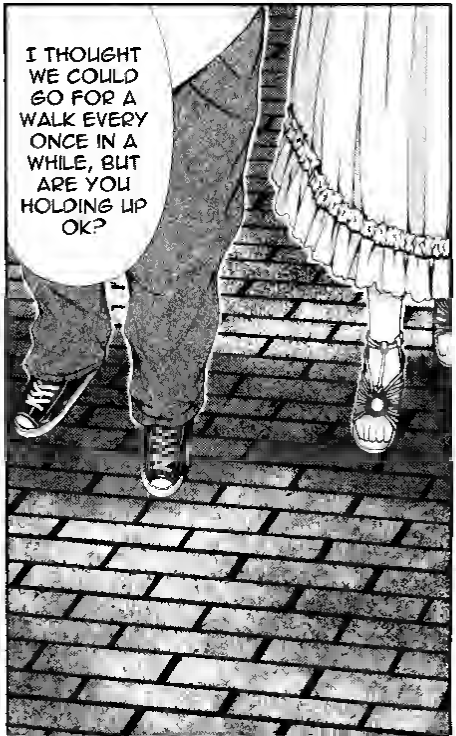
I WANTED HIM TO REVEAL ALL OF ME.

I WANTED TO BE SAVED I WANTED TO BE CHOSEN
BUT WHAT CAUSED ALL THOSE DESIRES
I STARTED TO CRY AT THE THOUGHT THAT SUCH A FEELING COULD WELL UP IN ME...
MY BODY BEGAN TO SHAKE AT THE THOUGHT THAT HE'D ENTERED SO DEEP INTO MY HEART...
WAS PROBABLY NOTHING MORE THAN THE AWAKENING OF MY LOVE

AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHY I WON'T BE FORGIVEN.

FOR AN INSTANT, THE MERE FEELING OF LOVE LET ME FORGET
ABOUT MY DESPAIR
I'M GOING TO END UP HURTING HIM.
IT'LL TURN INTO SOMETHING THAT CAN'T BE UNDONE
I KNEW ALL THAT BUT

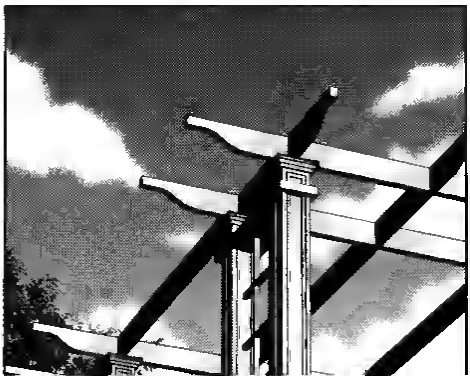
THE WIND FEELS NICE.
YEAH.


I THOUGHT WE COULD GO FOR A WALK EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE, BUT ARE YOU HOLDING UP OK?

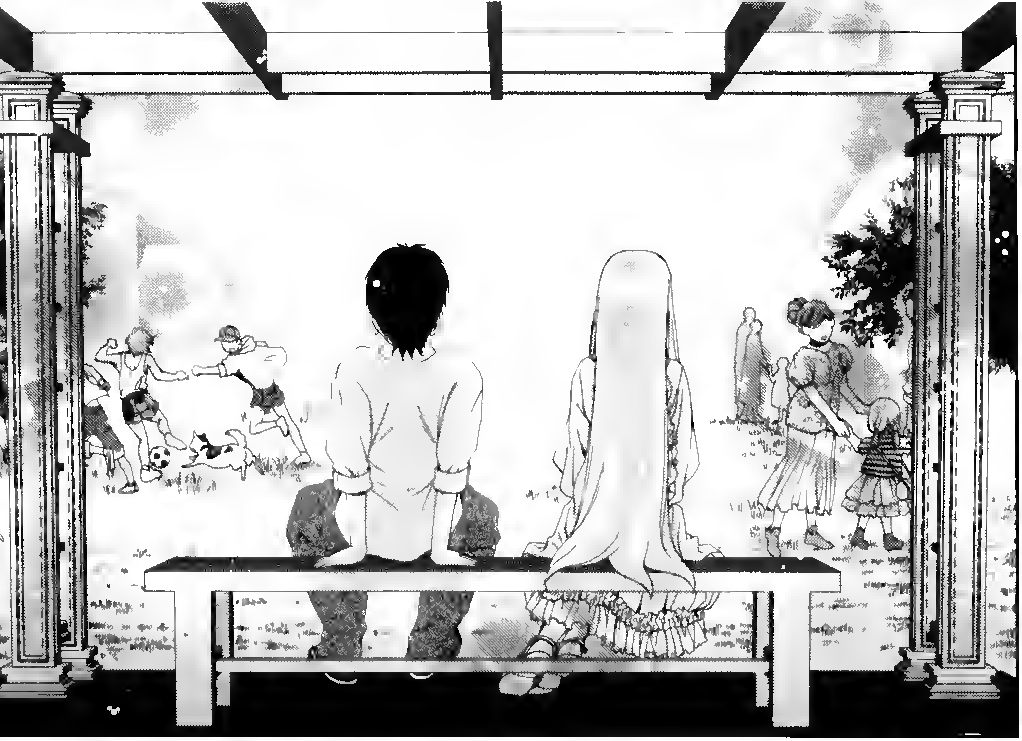
I SEE HER AS A REGULAR GIRL
I MIGHT HAVE DISQUALIFIED MYSELF AS A COUNSELOR
AND I'M FINE WITH THAT. BUT IF THAT'S THE CASE
THEN I'LL ACT LIKE SOMEONE IN LOVE.
AND I'LL SAVE THE ONE I LOVE!

TO DO THAT, I NEED TO GET HER TO TELL ME
WHAT'S TORMENTING HER

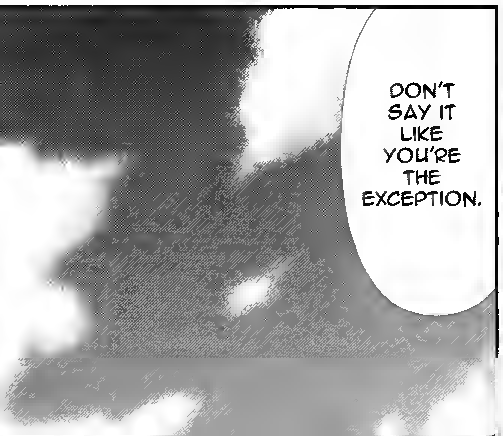
IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE RIGHT AWAY
I'LL TAKE MY TIME.



I NEED TO KNOW THE SECRET SHE WON'T SHARE WITH ANYONE
HER DESPAIR!



EVERYONE SEEMS SO HAPPY.


DON'T SAY IT LIKE YOU'RE THE EXCEPTION.

A MIRACLE ?
AS A THOUGHT EXPERIMENT, TRY THIS: LET'S SAY THAT A MIRACLE HAPPENED, AND ALL OF YOUR PROBLEMS WERE SOLVED.
TRY TO IMAGINE YOURSELF AND HOW HAPPY YOU'D BE.
THAT'S RIGHT. A "MIRACLE SCENARIO."
IF YOU ASSUME THAT A MIRACLE HAPPENED AND EVERYTHING TURNED OUT OK,
YOU CAN LOOK AT THAT IMAGE AND TRY TO FIND OUT WHAT PROBLEMS WERE PREVENTING YOU FROM GETTING THERE.

LET'S TRY TO DO IT TOGETHER.
IMAGINE A HAPPY FUTURE...
IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER WHETHER A MIRACLE'S INVOLVED OR NOT.
BUT BEING ABLE TO CONCRETELY IMAGE YOURSELF HAVING BEEN SAVED,
AS SIMPLE AS IT MAY SOUND, IS SOMETHING A PERSON IN DISTRESS ISN'T CAPABLE OF.

EVERY DAY IS UNEVENTFUL, BUT HAPPY...
ALL YOUR PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN RESOLVED...

YOU WAKE UP EARLY AND MAKE ENOUGH BREAKFAST FOR THREE.
YOUR HEALTH IMPROVES
KURAMOTO'S GETTING OLDER, SO YOU TRY TO LIGHTEN HIS LOAD A BIT.
AND YOU GET YOUR BEAUTIFUL BLACK HAIR BACK.
YOU SPEND YOUR FREE DAYS WITH YOUR NEW FRIENDS.
MAYBE YOU'RE WORKING A PART TIME JOB,
OR MAYBE YOU'RE COMPLETELY ABSORBED IN SCHOOL.

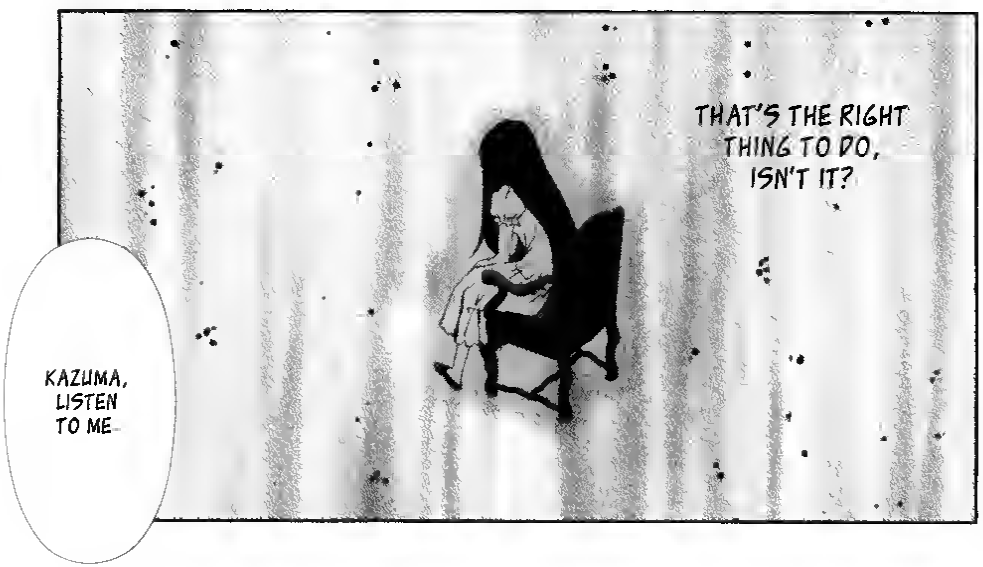
EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE YOU MEET AN OLD FRIEND.
THE MONSTER DOESN'T COME OUT ANYMORE.
YOU SLEEP LIKE A BABY.
IT'S A HAPPY LIFE TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM WHAT YOU'RE LIVING NOW.
AND ONLY ONE THING WON'T CHANGE.
I WANT TO STAY BY YOUR SIDE.
AND I'LL ALWAYS ...
STOP!

DON'T SAY ANY MORE ...
I DON'T DESERVE THAT LIFE ...!
WHAT'S WRONG, EMIRU?
IT'S JUST MAKE-BELIEVE.
IM SORRY KAZUMA,
BUT I JUST CAN'T PICUTRE IT.
EVEN IF A MIRACLE HAPPENED,
I JUST CAN'T IMAGINE
MYSELF HAVING BEEN SAVED!

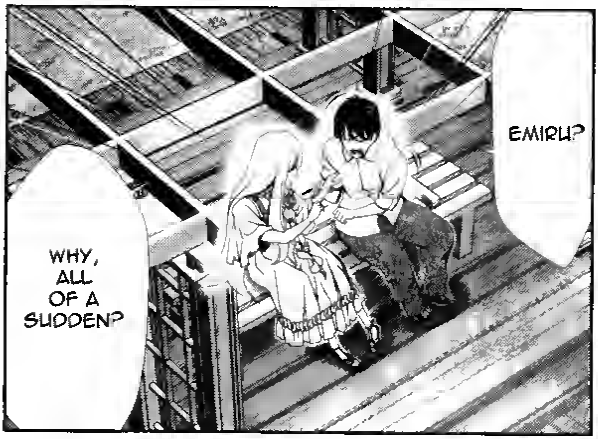
DESPAIR WEAVES CHAINS.

I CAN'T GET HIM ANY MORE INVOLVED!

I HAVE TO END IT...



ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO MY BODY.
I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING
ABOUT WHAT THE SECRET I LIVE WITH IS.
I'LL TELL YOU EVERY-THING!


EMIRU?
WHY, ALL OF A SUDDEN?

BEFORE IT TURNS INTO SOMETHING THAT CAN'T BE UNDONE.
EMIRU ?
SHE SHOULDN'T DO IT FOR MY SAKE!
IF SHE TELLS ME BECAUSE OF HER FEELINGS FOR ME, RATHER THAN BECAUSE OF A DECISION SHE MADE FOR HERSELF, THE MENTAL STRAIN WILL BE TOO MUCH..
TWO YEARS AGO
PLEASE, DON'T LOOK AWAY!
I CAN'T LIVE UP TO YOUR FEELINGS FOR ME!

I LIVED A WORRY-FREE LIFE.
UNTIL TWO YEARS AGO
BOTH AT SCHOOL AND IN MY PRIVATE LIFE,
I ENJOYED AN AVERAGE, MODEST HAPPINESS.
BUT THAT WAS ALL TEMPORARY.
I'D BEEN AVOIDING THE TRUTH.

WHO'S THERE?
KURA-MOTO?
THE LIGHT'S ON?

THE SEALED OFF ROOM !?
IT WAS LEAKING OUT OF THE STORAGE ROOM AT THE END OF THE HALL.
THAT LIGHT ISN'T USED ANYMORE.

THE DESPAIR THAT HAD BEEN LOCKED UP
HAD LEAKED OUT!

●初出一覧

第1話　えみる　●ヤングアニマル(2009年6号)
第2話　絶望　●ヤングアニマル(2009年7号)
第3話　オバケ屋敷　●ヤングアニマル(2009年8号)
第4話　乗り客　●ヤングアニマル(2009年9号)
第5話　心理査定　●ヤングアニマル(2009年10号)
第6話　屋敷にいるモノ　●ヤングアニマル(2009年11号)
第7話　高校時代　●ヤングアニマル(2009年12号)
第8話　禁断の一線　●ヤングアニマル(2010年3号)
第9話　幸福と現実　●ヤングアニマル(2009年14号)

本書を読む前に　キーワードを知ると、もっと楽しめる「現代の妖怪」豆知識解説

JETS COMICS 675

死に至る病①

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キミは
いったい
誰なんだ？
徐々に明らかになる えみるの真実
数馬は全てを受け入れ
彼女を護ってあげる事が出来るのか!?
死に至る病 2 (完結)
Shi ni itaru yamai
朝田 光
瀬口たかひろ
大好評発売中!!
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